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FCC Mailroom

Sherburne County Government Center

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March 2, 2017

Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St. SW Washington, D.C. 20554

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RE: WT Docket No. 16-421 - In the Matter of Streamlining Deployment of Small Cell Infrastructure By Improving Wireless Facilities Siting Policies

Dear Commission Members:

This letter shall serve as the public comment sought by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on the Mobilite, LLC Petition for Declaratory Ruling. Our primary concern is to maintain local involvement in the deployment process.

The local government has a clear role in this process. These networks and access points require extensive planning and investment from the local County and City governments. Removing or limiting local involvement may impose unintended hardships or unforeseen costs on the locality.

The commission's 2009 declaratory ruling that localities could review collocation applications within 90 days and other applications within 150 days is reasonable. As a result, we support the FCC in reviewing and upholding this rule.

The costs associated with improving wireless infrastructure for the wireless business are typically passed directly through to the consumer citizens as fees or taxes. The locality's ability to collect fees for processing applications and charge for right-of-way offsets the fees passed along to the consumer. The FCC should maintain the current interpretation of the statute, which states, "fair and reasonable compensation from telecommunications providers on a competitively neutral and nondiscriminatory basis."

Additionally, there may be historic properties or instances when a non-discriminatory use of micro cells would not be of interest to the community. In these cases, it is critical to have citizen input to ensure minimal disruption to the community.

We appreciate the opportunity to present the County's comments and concerns on this important plan. The County encourages all parties to engage in dialogue about long-term wireless infrastructure needs with space at the table for local government, citizens, and organizations.

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Thank you,

Sherburne County Administration

Steven H. Taylor, County Administrator

Brian Kamman, Information Technology Director